

dependents (widow/widower, unmarried/unemployed daughters and mother/father) of deceased freedom fighter pensioners has been decentralised with effect from 1.5.1992. The Pension Disbursing Officers (Bank Managers, District Treasury Officers, Pay & Accounts Officers) have been authorised to transfer family pension in their name at their level. Persons who still apply to the Central Government for transfer of family pension and grant of arrears are advised to approach the Pension Disbursing Officers in the matter immediately.

Theft of Medicine

1003. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Chori Hone Se Hi Nahi Mil Pati Rogion Ko Davain" appearing in the 'Hindustan', dated June 30, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether some persons have been arrested by the police from the slum colony adjacent to the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to tone up the working of the Government hospitals to ensure availability of medicines to the patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Delhi Police seized drugs estimated to be valued around Rs. 15,000/- suspected to be stolen "Hospital supply drugs" from a jhuggi near Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital on 18.6.97. A case was registered at P.S. Mandir Marg and one person was arrested.

(f) All efforts are made by the Central Government hospitals to ensure availability of medicines to the patients.

Restoration of subsidy

1004. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for restoration of subsidy on Ammonium chloride fertilizer received from the Punjab National Fertilizer and Chemicals has been pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The request for bringing back Ammonium Chloride under price control and the retention price-cum-subsidy scheme was considered. The request could not be agreed to.

Indo-Pak Border Fencing

1005. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :
SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether barbed wire fencing has been completed at Indo-Pak Border by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total land covered by fencing;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide compensation or land in lieu of the acquired land to the farmers; and

(d) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The entire border of Punjab, except certain gaps which could not be taken up due to being riverine/low lying areas, has been fenced. Out of 1035 Kms. long Rajasthan border, fencing in 720 Kms. has been completed and the work in 312.6 Kms. in Jaisalmer sector has been taken up for completion in three phases by 'December' 1999. Feasibility studies for ditch-cum-bundh along Rann areas of Gujarat and modified type of fencing suitable for such terrain are also being carried out. Restarting of the work in Jammu sector covering a length of 180 Kms. is also under active consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) The compensation to the farmers whose land has been used for fencing on Indo-Pak Border is